

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 ARA-10 EA-10
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3222
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY GABORONE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 03482

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PORG, UNSC, SF, WA
SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: CONVERSATIONS WITH NIGERIAN MISOFF
SEPTEMBER 6

1. NIGERIAN MISOFF (FISHER) SHED ADDITIONAL LIGHT ON
THE DYNAMICS OF THE ONGOING AFRICA GROUP CONSIDERATION
OF THE NAMIBIAN QUESTION HERE IN NEW YORK. FISHER
DESCRIBED A SCENE WE HAVE SEEN BEFORE HERE: A NUMBER OF
"MODERATES" IN THE AFRICA GROUP STATING THEIR WILLINGNESS
TO COMPROMISE AND COOPERATE FACING A SMALL BUT VOCAL
RADICAL MINORITY CAPABLE OF EXERCISING POLITICAL POWER
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WITHIN THE GROUP OUT OF PROPORTION TO THEIR NUMBERS.
FISHER WAS UPSET THAT THE CONTACT GROUP IN THEIR
MORNING MEETING TODAY WITH AFRICAN GROUP REPRESENTATIVES
(SEPTEL) HAD NOT ADEQUATELY SATISFIED THE CONCERNS
RAISED BY CHAIRMAN TLOU ON BEHALF OF THE AFRICAN GROUP.
EMPHASIZING THE OFTEN EMOTIONAL NATURE OF THE AFRICAN
GROUP DYNAMICS, FISHER SAID THAT THE "MODERATES" "HAD

TO CARRY SOMETHING BACK TO THE GROUP" IF THEY WERE TO
SECURE AFRICAN GROUP APPROVAL FOR A POSITIVE AFRICAN
VOTE ON A NAMIBIA RESOLUTION.

2. MISOFF (GRAHAM), REITERATING THE POINTS MADE BY
THE CONTACT GROUP AMBASSADORS THAT MORNING, EMPHASIZED
THE DIFFICULTIES INHERENT IN OPENING UP THE SYG'S
REPORT TO SATISFY DETAILED OBJECTIONS OR IN ATTEMPTING
TO DEAL WITH DETAILED CONCERNS IN ANY RESOLUTION THAT
WOULD BE PUT BEFORE THE COUNCIL. MISOFF SAID THAT THE
CONTACT GROUP FELT THAT THE CEASEFIRE CONCERN MIGHT BE
HANDLED WITH A SEPARATE PIECE OR PIECES OF PAPER TO
THE SATISFACTION OF ALL PARTIES. FISHER SUGGESTED
THAT PERHAPS A STATEMENT BY SYG WALDHEIM COULD OFFER
ASSURANCES ON THE REGISTRATION PROCESS, ON THE
ADEQUACY OF THE PRESENT NUMBERS OF POLICE MONITORS NOW
ENVISAGED AND PERHAPS COULD EVEN ADDRESS THE QUESTION
OF REGULAR REPORTS BACK TO THE COUNCIL. FISHER THOUGHT
THAT SUCH A SOLUTION TO THE FOUR AFRICAN CONCERNS
ABOVE WOULD SATISFY THE AFRICAN GROUP. YOUNG

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